

COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

REPORT

OF THE

County Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1921,

With Summary of Reports of District Medical Officers of Health,

BY

J. P. WALKER, M.D., D.P.H.

ISLE OF WIGHT :

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ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

ANNUAL REPORT AS TO HEALTH RETURNS AND STATISTICS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT FOR THE YEAR 1921.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee of the Isle of Wight County Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Tenth, and last, Annual Report as County Medical Officer of Health for the Isle of Wight, being the Report for the year 1921.

From a public health point of view the most notable features of the year have been the appointment by the Council of a Tuberculosis Officer, with preparations for the opening of the new sanatorium at Longford House, Havenstreet, the continued prevalence of diphtheria at Cowes, and the prevalence of scarlet fever of a very mild type throughout the Island in the last quarter of the year.

My thanks are again due to the District Medical Officers of Health for their valued co-operation and help in dealing with sanitary matters in their several areas.

If one may be permitted to review the ten years during which I have been at work on your behalf, first and foremost might be placed the fact that panel medical practice for insured persons has been safely and permanently inaugurated during that period, free treatment of all persons suffering from venereal diseases has been begun, a hospital for the isolation of small-pox has been made available for each sanitary district, school nurses are performing their good offices everywhere, health visitors are at work throughout the Island, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics to the number of fourteen are looking after their special departments, a sanatorium for the treatment of cases of tuberculosis has been established, and two school clinics are now doing good work for the scholars under the care of the Isle of Wight County Education Committee.

Such a record of achievement redounds to the credit of those providing the same.

Much remains yet to be done, and those responsible for further measures for ameliorating the health of the people living in the Isle of Wight will receive the approbation of its thinking residents, not only for what has been achieved in the past, but also their support and approval of all future proposals of a similar kind, which have the ultimate welfare of its population as their main objects. Mankind is apt to forget that the benefits of medical work of a preventive kind are not always readily seen, and possibly to grudge the expense; but in these matters it is safe to remember that the long view is the right one, and that the ratepayers' money is being wisely spent in measures of this kind.

Believe me, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. P. WALKER, M.D., D.P.H.

2, Siviars Mansions,
26, Pier Street, Ryde, I.W.,
August, 1922.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

The Annual Reports for the year 1921 from the Medical Officers of Health for the Districts within the Administrative County, as submitted to the Isle of Wight County Council, in pursuance of Section 24 of the Local Government Act, 1888, were received as follows:—

Area.	Medical Officer.	Date received.	Style.
Isle of Wight Rural District ...	Dr. J. A. Gibson	May 29, 1922	Printed
Urban Districts—			
Cowes	Dr. T. A. Mayo	April 19, 1922	Typewritten
East Cowes	Dr. J. A. Gibson	April 6, 1922	Typewritten
St. Helens	Dr. L. L. Preston	June 10, 1922	Typewritten
Sandown	Dr. A. Barber*	March 31, 1922	Printed
Shanklin	Dr. J. Cowper	May 27, 1922	Typewritten
Ventnor	Dr. R. T. Cooke	May 4, 1922	Typewritten
Boroughs—			
Newport	Dr. S. Foster	July 11, 1922	Printed
Ryde	Dr. L. Firman-Edwards	June 12, 1922	Printed
Cowes Port Sanitary Authority	Dr. T. A. Mayo	March 24, 1922	Typewritten

* By deputy.

The Ministry of Health issued Circular 269 on December 28th, 1921, with a view to the omission of details in Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health, hoping thereby to effect a reduction, both in the time required in preparing the Reports, and in the cost of printing them, it being proposed to give effect to these modifications by an amendment of the several Orders relating to the preparation of Annual Reports.

Full and detailed Reports in future will normally be required at intervals of not more than five years, and will be referred to as "Survey" Reports; the Annual Reports for 1919 and 1920 will be treated as constituting the first of the series of Survey Reports.

REPORTS OF COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

Article 7 (a) of the County Medical Officers of Health (Duties) Order, 1910, requires that the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health shall contain a digest of all annual and special reports made by the Medical Officers of Health of all county districts within the county.

Circular 269 proposed to revoke this requirement in order to avoid any delay in the preparation of reports by County Medical Officers of Health arising out of the necessity for a prior consideration by them of the whole of the reports for districts within the County, in order to enable the County Medical Officer of Health to devote his Report in the main to a consideration of the work for which the County Council is primarily responsible.

The reports for districts within the County will, however, continue to be an important source of information for the purpose of the review made by the County Medical Officer of Health.

The Department rely upon the Medical Officers of Health concerned to complete their reports and transmit them to the County Medical Officer of Health not later than the middle of April, seeing that their work in preparing them will be appreciably less under the new system outlined in that Circular.

The reports for 1921 are, therefore, classed as "Ordinary" and not "Survey" Reports. From the table given above, it will be seen that the Report from Newport did not come to hand until about three months after the time limit suggested by the Ministry of Health.

TABLE I.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Sanitary Authority.	Area in Acres.	Population at 1921 Census.	Registrar-General's Estimate of Population for 1921.	Number of Inhabited Houses.	Number of Families or Separate Occupiers.	Rateable Value in the £.	Sum represented by a Penny Rate.
I.W. Rural District	86925	30925	29540	7295	*	214044	759
Cowes U.D. ...	586	9998	9970	†2500	*	52636	218
East Cowes U.D. ...	604	4636	4682	*	*	22205	91
Newport M.B. ...	504	11036	11030	*	*	49086	180
Ryde M.B. ...	820	11295	10410	2650	3268	90534	299
St. Helens U.D. ...	1941	5706	4871	*	*	30251	109
Sandown U.D. ...	1223	7664	5440	1551	—	41367	157
Shanklin U.D. ...	798	7374	4295	*	*	37387	151
Ventnor U.D. ...	745	6063	4934	1396	1436	48343	160
Whole County ...	94146	94697	85172	—	—	559628	2183

* Not stated.

† Roughly.

‡ Taken from County Council Year Book.

VITAL STATISTICS.

TABLE II.—VITAL STATISTICS OF ALL DISTRICTS.

Area.	Rural District.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.	Whole County.	England & Wales: Rates per 1,000.
Mortality from Tuberculosis per 1,000 estimated population ...	0.6	1.7	0.4	1.1	1.3	1.8	1.1	0.6	2.6	1.1	—
Total No. of Deaths from Tuberculosis ...	19	17	2	13	14	9	6	3	13	96	
Males ...	4	12	2	5	5	5	4	—	6	43	
Females ...	15	5	—	8	9	4	2	3	7	53	
Birth-rate per 1,000 ...	17.6	18.0	19.2	23.2	15.9	19.2	13.7	11.8	16.0	17.7	22.4
Total No. of Births ...	521	180	90	256	166	94	75	51	79	1512	
Males ...	301	91	52	131	93	46	41	24	43	822	
Females ...	220	89	38	125	73	48	34	27	36	690	
Legitimate: Males ...	282	87	52	123	88	41	41	22	38	774	
Females ...	204	86	34	117	69	46	32	26	35	649	
Illegitimate: Males ...	19	4	—	8	5	5	—	2	5	48	
Females ...	16	3	4	8	4	2	2	1	1	41	
Total No. of Deaths ...	326	135	51	132	155	62	69	43	78	1051	
Males ...	150	73	27	64	62	31	34	17	36	494	
Females ...	176	62	24	68	93	31	35	26	42	557	
Death-rate per 1,000 ...	11.0	13.5	10.8	11.9	14.8	12.7	12.6	10.0	16.0	12.3	
Corrected Death-rate per 1,000	9.4	12.5	10.4	10.4	11.3	10.6	10.5	8.1	13.9	10.5	12.1
Death of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Births:											
Infantile Mortality Rate	51.8	83.3	66.6	70.3	42.1	85.1	13.3	—	50.6	56.8	83
Total Infantile Deaths	27	15	6	18	7	8	1	—	4	86	
No. of Deaths of Legitimate:											
Males ...	15	7	2	9	3	6	—	—	2	44	
Females ...	8	8	4	8	3	2	1	—	1	35	
No. of Deaths of Illegitimate:											
Males ...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	
Females ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	0.06
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	4	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	0.12
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	6	2	1	5	—	1	—	—	1	16	
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	29540	9970	4682	11030	10410	4871	5440	4295	4934	85172	

From the above table it will be seen that the birth-rate, 17.7, compares with one of 21.4 per thousand of population for 1920, a big drop, but a general one, for that of England and Wales dropped from 25.4 per thousand to a rate of 22.4.

The death-rate, 12.3, when uncorrected compares with one of 13.7 for 1920, and when corrected is reduced to one of 10.5 per thousand, compared with a corrected rate for 1920 of 11.5 per thousand.

The corrected death-rate for 1921 (10.5) compares with a death-rate of 12.1 per thousand for the whole of England and Wales.

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY DURING THE YEAR 1921, RELATING TO CIVILIANS ONLY AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE.

Causes of Death.	All Ages.	0 to 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 & over.
All Causes	1051	86	8	11	21	38	101	215	224	347
1 Enteric Fever	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2 Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Whooping Cough	9	6	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
6 Diphtheria	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
7 Influenza	24	2	1	0	1	0	4	1	7	8
8 Encephalitis Lethargica	5	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	0
9 Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	84	0	0	0	2	19	40	19	2	2
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases	12	2	0	1	1	2	4	2	0	0
12 Cancer, Malignant Disease	121	0	0	0	0	0	10	50	36	25
13 Rheumatic Fever	5	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1
14 Diabetes	7	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	1
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	71	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	28	26
16 Heart Disease	162	0	0	0	0	2	4	39	56	61
17 Arterio-sclerosis	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	18
18 Bronchitis	65	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	13	48
19 Pneumonia (all forms)	47	12	2	4	2	1	2	8	11	5
20 Other Respiratory Diseases	12	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	6
21 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum... ..	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0
22 Diarrhœa, &c.	22	14	2	0	1	1	0	0	3	1
23 Appendicitis and Typhlitis	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
24 Cirrhosis of Liver	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0
25 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	35	0	0	0	0	2	4	12	7	10
26 Puerperal Sepsis	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
27 Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
28 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	38	37	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
29 Suicide	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0
30 Other Deaths from Violence	24	1	0	0	1	1	5	4	3	9
31 Other Defined Diseases	241	10	2	2	5	4	13	38	41	126
32 Causes ill-defined or Unknown	6	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICTS DURING THE YEAR 1921, RELATING TO CIVILIANS ONLY, AT ALL AGES.

Causes of Death.	Isle of Wight Rural.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	San-down.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.	TOTALS.
All Causes... ..	326	135	51	132	155	62	69	43	78	1051
1 Enteric fever	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2 Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Scarlet fever... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
5 Whooping cough	4	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
6 Diphtheria	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
7 Influenza	5	6	2	1	2	4	1	0	3	24
8 Encephalitis lethargica	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	5
9 Meningococcal meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	15	13	1	12	13	9	6	2	13	84
11 Other tuberculous diseases... ..	4	4	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	12
12 Cancer, Malignant disease	37	13	7	11	20	11	9	4	9	121
13 Rheumatic fever	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	5
14 Diabetes	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	7
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	17	11	1	11	11	4	6	7	3	71
16 Heart disease	64	20	4	15	20	7	15	10	7	162
17 Arterio-sclerosis	7	2	0	1	7	1	1	5	6	30
18 Bronchitis	22	8	4	6	12	2	1	3	7	65
19 Pneumonia (all forms)	17	2	3	9	6	4	3	1	2	47
20 Other respiratory diseases... ..	4	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	3	12
21 Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
22 Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 yrs.)	6	2	1	5	0	1	0	0	1	16
23 Appendicitis and typhlitis... ..	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	4
24 Cirrhosis of liver	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
25 Acute and chronic Nephritis	3	9	3	6	4	0	4	1	5	35
26 Puerperal sepsis	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
27 Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
28 Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	10	6	3	7	5	3	1	0	3	38
29 Suicide	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
30 Other deaths from violence	9	1	2	5	4	1	2	0	0	24
31 Other defined diseases	79	27	11	37	42	12	17	8	14	247
32 Causes ill-defined or unknown	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	6

3. Notifiable Diseases during the year, 1921.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The new cases of notifiable infectious disease taken from the weekly returns of the Medical Officers of Health are given in Table V :—

TABLE V.—NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH DURING THE YEAR 1921, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES AND LOCALITIES, TAKEN FROM THEIR WEEKLY RETURNS.

	Isle of Wight Rural.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown	Shanklin	Ventnor.	Totals.
Scarlet Fever	40	58	4	28	48	17	23	23	4	245
Diphtheria	12	51	8	2	4	1	7	7	8	100
Typhoid Fever	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Encephalitis Lethargica...	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	5
Erysipelas... ..	4	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	2	1	—	3	—	1	—	—	8
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	30	8	3	13	14	9	7	4	5	93
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	9
Pneumonia	4	—	7	4	2	—	1	—	—	18
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	99	124	26	50	73	27	40	35	17	491

The striking features in the above Table V are the large number of cases of diphtheria at Cowes and the general prevalence of scarlet fever except at East Cowes and Ventnor. The number of notified cases of pulmonary and other forms of tuberculosis are exactly the same as in 1920.

No cases of small-pox have occurred during the year ; this is fortunate as the proved defects in the small-pox hospital at Ashley have not yet been remedied.

It is obvious that many cases of pneumonia are not notified, taking into consideration the number of deaths, for more die from it than are notified as suffering from that disease ; also it is probable that many cases of tuberculosis are not notified at all. In considering the table given below, it must be remembered that the cases of tuberculosis sometimes last many years, therefore the proportion between the numbers dying and those suffering from the disease may relate to different periods. Very many are notified shortly before death, an experience not confined to the Island. Many people have tuberculosis and recover, but the figures given below do not prove the fact.

TABLE VI.

	Rural District.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.	Whole County.
Cases of Pneumonia notified in 1921...	4	0	7	4	2	0	1	0	0	18
Deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) in 1921	17	2	3	9	6	4	3	1	2	47
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	30	8	3	13	14	9	7	4	5	93
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	15	13	1	12	13	9	6	2	13	84
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	9
Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis	4	4	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	12

TUBERCULOSIS.

Details of the notifications received during the year under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912, are given in the following Table VII :—

TABLE VII.—SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD FROM THE 2ND JANUARY, 1921, TO THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1921.

Age Periods.	Notifications on Form A.													Number of Notifications on Form B.				Number of Notifica- tions on Form C.		
	Number of Primary Notifications.												Total Notifications on Form A.	Number of Primary Notifications.				Total Notifications on Form B.	Poor Law Insti- tutions.	Sana- toria.
	0 to 1	1 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 25	25 35	35 45	45 55	55 65	65 and up- wards.	Total Primary Notifica- tions.		Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	Total Prim- ary Notifi- cations.			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
Pulmonary :																				
Males ...				2	4	5	9	9	2	2		33	33							9
Females ...				2	9	6	12	2	4	2	3	40	42							6
Non-pulmonary :																				
Males ...				1	1			2				4	4	1	1		2	2		
Females ...								1				1	1							

The following Table VIII, referring to tuberculosis in the Isle of Wight, is of interest:—

TABLE VIII.—NOTIFICATIONS OF, AND DEATHS FROM, TUBERCULOSIS IN THE LAST TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

Year.	Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Notifications of other forms of Tuberculosis.	Total Notifications of Tuberculosis.	Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis.	Total Deaths from Tuberculosis.
1901 ...	In these years Notification was not compulsory.			147	29	176
1902 ...				124	15	139
1903 ...				100	32	132
1904 ...				109	18	127
1905 ...				91	24	115
1906 ...				93	30	123
1907 ...				110	28	138
1908 ...				104	32	136
1909 ...				101	41	145
1910 ...				93	21	114
1911 ...				79	30	109
1912 ...	225	—	225	78	20	98
1913 ...	132	51	183	67	19	86
1914 ...	98	29	127	57	27	84
1915 ...	73	19	92	84	16	100
1916 ...	112	17	129	54	23	77
1917 ...	88	25	113	70	25	95
1918 ...	129	21	150	80	15	95
1919 ...	73	19	92	79	15	94
1920 ...	83	8	91	81	14	95
1921 ...	93	9	102	84	12	96
Average ...	110	22	130	89	23	113

On August 9th, 1921, Dr. David M. Smith was appointed Tuberculosis Officer, and all matters relating to tuberculosis were, by your directions, placed under his entire charge. He is responsible for the accuracy of the statistics given hereunder in square brackets.

In May, 1921, the care of both insured and uninsured cases of tuberculosis devolved upon your Council, and [up to the end of the year 38 males and 18 females made application for assistance owing to pulmonary tuberculosis, and 2 males owing to non-pulmonary tuberculosis, a total of 40 males and 18 females.

In the Turban Scale of Classification of pulmonary tuberculosis 17 males and 5 females were in Stage I, 10 males and 10 females in Stage II, and 2 males and 3 females in Stage III.

Forty-seven cases were sent to sanatoria, 20 being in Stage I, 18 in Stage II, and 9 in Stage III.

Of the 56 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 11 were subsequently found fit for work, 34 improved, 5 without improvement, and 6 died. No one was awaiting a sanatorium vacant bed, and no one declined the treatment offered.

The number of insured persons asking for assistance was 37. Classified by occupations, 18 were discharged service men, 1 traveller, 1 clerk, 2 porters, 4 domestic servants, 2 labourers, 1 dressmaker, 1 tailor, 3 school-children, 4 shop assistants, 1 seaman, 5 housewives, 1 hawker, 4 shipyard workers, 1 baker, 1 teacher, 1 milk-salesman, 1 draughtsman, 1 plasterer, 3 without occupation.

Classified by age, there were 5 between the ages 5–10 years, 3 from 10–15 years of age, 4 from 15–20, 19 from 20–25 years old, 21 between the ages of 25 and 35, and 6 between 35 and 45 years of age.

Extra nourishment was granted by your Council to 30 cases:—

Weekly amounts of 1/6 to 2/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 case
2/-	2/6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 "
2/6	3/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 cases
3/-	3/6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 case
4/6	5/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 cases
5/-	5/6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 "
6/6	7/-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 "
7/-	7/6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 "

From Ashey there came 1 case, from Brading 3, Chale 1, Carisbrooke 1, Cowes 11, East Cowes 3, Freshwater 3, Gatcombe 1, Newport 7, Niton 1, Ryde 9, St. Helens 3, Sandown 2, Shalfleet 1, Shanklin 1, Ventnor 7, Whipping-ham 1, and Yarmouth 1.]

Arrangements were made for the opening of the sanatorium at Longford House, Havenstreet, near Ryde, on August 10th, 1922. Originally planned to accommodate men, women, and children, the project for the erection of a Men's block was stopped by the Ministry of Health, in consequence of the Treasury's requirements as to reductions in expenditure. The sanatorium is being used therefore for women and children, the class most in need of it, males not being treated there. Advanced cases spread the disease very largely, and the disability affects the wage-earner, who is generally the man, most seriously from a public health point of view, and therefore, if a decision had to be made as to the reception of either men or women, the preference should be given to the accommodation of men. The site is ample on which to treat cases both of men and of women.

In the Rural District five cases of tuberculosis were known to exist which had not been notified.

At Cowes notifications of non-pulmonary tuberculosis and influenzal pneumonia are said to be "not adequate."

At East Cowes no death occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis which had not been notified, but a death from tuberculosis meningitis had not been previously notified.

The Newport Medical Officer of Health claims that they now have knowledge of all diagnosed cases of tuberculosis in the district.

At Ventnor the number of deaths from tuberculosis is in excess of those notified, this being due to the greater proportion of the cases coming into the town when already suffering from it, and not contracting it at Ventnor, and notifications of changes of address not always being received from the Medical Officers of Health of the districts in which they previously resided. At Ventnor the ratio of deaths to notifications is about two to one. The Ventnor Urban District Council made representations to the Ministry of Health on the subject during the year.

In none of the cases of ophthalmia neonatorum does the vision appear to have become impaired, and only one was removed to hospital.

4. Causes of Sickness.

In the Rural District there was considerable difficulty in the diagnosis of scarlet fever, several cases being sent to the Isolation Hospital as cases of scarlet fever, which proved to be cases of German measles.

In Cowes the presence of much distress through unemployment may have been a cause of sickness, the district having been scheduled as a "Distressed Area."

At Shanklin no child died in its first year of life.

METEOROLOGY.

The unusual meteorological conditions prevailing during the year deserve more than a passing notice. I am indebted to Mr. C. E. Gilchrist, of Sandown, for certain particulars relating to that district, and through the kindness of Mr. J. Dover, M.A., I have again been furnished with a copy of his Annual Report for Totland for the year. It may be instructive to compare the Wootton and Sandown conditions with those prevailing at Totland in 1921, especially as many people often ask how the different parts of the Island compare with one another.

TABLE IX.

Month.	Maximum Temperatures.			Minimum Temperatures.			Mean Maximum Temperatures.			Mean Minimum Temperatures.			Rainfall in Inches.		
	Totland.	Wootton.	Sandown.	Totland.	Wootton.	Sandown.	Totland.	Wootton.	Sandown.	Totland.	Wootton.	Sandown.	Totland.	Wootton.	Sandown.
January ...	53.0	55	54	32.0	28	33	50.0	50.5	51.4	43.8	40.7	43.5	4.50	3.92	3.98
February ...	54.0	58	56	29.9	27	31	46.7	49.2	47.9	37.7	35.1	38.2	0.19	0.48	0.32
March ...	58.9	61	60	33.0	28	32	50.7	54.0	52.5	42.0	34.2	40.7	1.06	1.17	1.55
April ...	70.3	70	70	32.1	28	32	57.1	58.4	57.7	41.1	38.6	41.8	0.83	0.92	1.28
May ...	73.8	76	75	36.0	34	38	60.8	63.2	62.7	47.1	44.3	48.1	1.14	1.74	1.50
June ...	76.9	79	74	42.0	42	44	68.5	70.4	68.9	51.9	50.1	52.8	0.16	0.04	0.08
July ...	84.5	91	87	48.3	44	49	72.6	76.4	73.7	57.5	55.3	58.7	0.47	0.29	0.32
August ...	78.3	79	79	47.2	43	48	67.6	69.5	69.2	55.9	52.6	55.8	2.06	2.07	2.62
September ...	74.5	81	74	42.4	40	46	67.1	68.7	68.0	53.2	49.9	54.2	0.71	0.56	0.95
October ...	75.8	78	73	35.0	33	36	64.2	67.0	64.9	51.2	47.6	51.2	1.11	1.14	1.62
November ...	61.0	61	63	26.9	24	27	49.8	51.0	51.2	41.0	38.1	42.0	1.97	2.28	2.17
December ...	55.0	56	58	32.7	27	31	50.0	52.8	51.1	41.3	38.0	40.9	1.69	1.85	2.36
The year 1921	84.5	91	87	26.9	24	27	58.8	60.9	59.9	47.0	43.7	47.3	15.89	16.36	18.75

Totland is at the west end of the Island, Sandown on the eastern border, and Wootton lies to the North, and not far from the middle of the Island.

The wind blew from the north on 42 days, north-east 56, east 27, south-east 36, south 29, south-west 67, west 56, and from the north-west on 52 days.

The barometrical pressure for the year averaged 30.111 inches, the lowest being 29.251 inches on January 31st, and the highest being 30.859 inches on February 27th, the latter being the highest reading since December 12th, 1905, when it was 30.902 inches.

Snow fell on three days, hail on six. On only five mornings was there frost in the screen, but on the grass the exposed thermometer registered slight frost on 42 mornings.

Lightning was seen on six days, and thunder was heard on ten days.

The year as a whole was exceptionally warm, in fact the warmest on record at Totland, the summer being unusually prolonged, with a very warm September and October.

The coldest sea temperature reached was 43.9° F. on February 13th, being about three degrees warmer than usual; by the middle of June it was up to 60° F. and it kept warm six weeks later than usual, and as late as October 22nd it was up to 61.4° F. Even at Christmas it had not fallen below 47° F.

At Totland, where the sunshine recorder, by reason of its position, is unable to measure bright sunshine during the last hour before sunset, there were 1,987 hours of sunshine, a record beaten twice only, viz.: 1,993 hours in 1908 and 2,115 hours in 1911. June 28th had 15.1 hours of sunshine, and there were only 43 sunless days.

At Sandown there were 1,995.2 hours of sunshine, with 34 sunless days.

The rainfall, 15.89 inches, was the smallest on record, the nearest approach to it being 21.68 inches during 1908; springs failed in their water supply very much during the Autumn.

Other stations recorded their rainfall as follows:—Freshwater, 15.97; Cowes, 17.60; East Cowes, 16.79; Wootton, 16.36; Ryde (Perivale), 16.68; Esplanade, 17.79; Bembridge, 16.34; Sandown, 18.75; Shanklin, 19.32; Ventnor, 15.54; St. Maur, 17.62; Sanatorium (St. Lawrence), 17.55; Brighthstone Rectory, 17.36; Pitt Place, 20.55; and Newport, 20.28.

MIDWIVES.

Forty-seven midwives gave notice of their intention to practise midwifery in the Island during the year, 46 of these being certificated and 1 uncertificated, the latter being struck off the Midwives' Roll during the course of the year, for infraction of the rules of the Central Midwives' Board.

A certificated midwife, whose methods were found very unsatisfactory, has recently been taken before the Central Midwives' Board, and placed on probation.

Of these 47 midwives, some were here only temporarily, and in ordinary practice there are now only 33 midwives, of whom 22 work either for a public maternity home or for a district nursing association, and 11 are in private practice on their own account.

The Isle of Wight is one of the few Counties, if not the only one, in which every midwife now registered here, or practising here, has been admitted to the register by virtue of having passed a qualifying examination, and not by reason of being a bona fide midwife without any qualification prior to the passing of the Midwives' Act, 1902.

Sixty-eight visits of inspection were paid to these midwives by the County Medical Officer, apart from visits paid by the County Superintendent Nurse.

There were received during the year 1921 the following notices :—

TABLE X.

Sending for medical help	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Laying out the dead	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Liability to be a source of infection...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Changes of address	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Death of mother	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Death of child	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Midwives attended 916 confinements in the year, 229 of these being maternity cases, and 687 midwifery cases, a doctor having to be sent for in 11.6 per cent. of the latter cases.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

On January 1st, 1921, there came into operation the new scale of fees prescribed for payment by local supervising authorities to medical practitioners called in by registered midwives under Section 14 of the Midwives' Act, 1918.

For economical reasons the old forms to be filled up by the person making application for the payment, persons declaring themselves to be necessitous, and unable to pay, are still being used, but the fees allowable are now as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
1. Fee for all attendance of a doctor at parturition (i.e., from the commencement of labour until the child is born), whether operative assistance or not is involved, including all subsequent visits during the first ten days inclusive of the day of birth, ...	2	2	0
2. Fee for attendance of a second doctor to give an anæsthetic, whether on account of abortion or miscarriage, at parturition, or subsequently ...	1	1	0
3. Fee for suturing the perineum, for the removal of adherent or retained placenta, for exploration of the uterus, for the treatment of post-partum hæmorrhage, or for any operative emergency arising directly from parturition, including all subsequent necessary visits during the first ten days, inclusive of the day of birth ...	1	1	0
This fee not to be payable when the fee under (1) is payable.			
4. Fee for attendance at, or in connection with, an abortion or miscarriage, including all subsequent visits during the ten days after and including the first visit ...	1	1	0
5. Fee for visits to mother or child not included under (1) to (4)—			
Day (9 a.m. to 8 p.m.) ...		5	0
Night (8 p.m. to 9 a.m.) ...		10	0
6. The usual mileage fee of the district to be paid for all attendances under (1) to (5) of this scale. No claim for mileage has ever been made by any medical man.			

It is to be noted that no fee shall be payable by the local supervising authority :—

- (1) Where the doctor has agreed to attend the patient under arrangement made by, or on behalf of, the patient, or by any club, medical institute, or other association of which the patient or her husband is a member.
- (2) Where the doctor receives or agrees to receive a fee from the patient or her representative.
- (3) In respect of any services performed by the doctor after the expiry of four weeks from the day of birth.

It must also be noted that the payment of such fees as above is compulsory by the I.W. County Council, which is the local supervising authority for the whole Island, but the Council is empowered by Section 14 (4) of the Midwives' Act, 1918, to recover the fee except in cases of poverty.

The Minister of Health in a circular letter to the Clerk of the Council, December 24th, 1920, stated that the authority should frame a scale of income for the purpose of determining the cases in which the fee should be recovered, but no definite scale has yet been considered by your Council. Nevertheless, as each case is brought separately before the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and considered on its merits, it is probable that no recoverable fee escapes the attempt to recover the same. But, as everyone with any experience of County Court practice is well aware, cases do crop up from time to time where a husband in receipt of a good income will retain the principal part of the same for his own pleasure, leaving the wife and family to struggle along as best they may, and any legal proceedings, when pushed to the extreme limit, often mean that an already impoverished and suffering household suffer still more from the attempt to make the unworthy husband fulfil his duty to the community.

It is believed, on fairly good authority, that the Isle of Wight is more successful in recovering payments made under this Act than the majority of local supervising authorities.

A scheme in vogue in Hertfordshire for rendering help to patients in urgent and necessitous maternity cases is as follows, the scale being exclusive of "maternity benefit" granted under the Insurance Acts :—

Where the income per head per day is three shillings and over, patient must pay the whole cost.

Where the income per head per day is between two and three shillings, patient to pay half cost.

Where the income per head per day is two shillings or less, the patient pays nothing.

No payments are to be made by unmarried mothers.

During the year, 1921, payments to practitioners in the Isle of Wight were as follows :—

One case at £3 3s., thirteen at £2 2s., three at £1 1s., and one at 10s., a total of £34 2s.

Of the above 18 cases the sum of £9 19s. 6d. had been recovered at the time these details were recorded.

Three had repaid the whole cost, one was about to do so, two were paying in part, and in twelve cases the Council undertook the whole liability.

In nearly all these cases the maternity benefit allowance of £2 has been received by the person declaring herself unable to pay the fee for medical attendance.

TABLE XI.—SHOWING THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS IN 1921.

	To Expectant Mothers.		To Infants under 1.		Total Visits to Children aged 1-5.	At Infant Welfare Centres: Average Attendance per Session.	
	First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.		Expectant Mothers.	Children.
County Superintendent Nurse (Northwood Area) ...	6	34	40	268	432	—	—
Cowes Nurse ...	98	112	60	690	125	3	50
East Cowes „ ...	57	218	92	1160	1815	1	22
Newport „ ...	34	62	174	468	474	4	30
Sandown „ ...	112	147	143	816	979	4	30
Ryde District „ ...	227	497	237	5521	1272	7	68
Bembridge „ ...	25	302	24	302	159	—	18
Brading „ ...	8	57	13	13	8	2	19
Brighstone „ ...	10	62	16	170	43	—	—
Calbourne „ ...	12	12	12	24	6	—	—
Carisbrooke „ ...	61	190	88	724	200	4	12
Chale „ ...	13	105	15	173	33	—	—
Freshwater „ ...	88	88	98	98	222	1	34
Gatcombe „ ...	27	29	27	48	18	—	—
Nettlestone „ ...	12	44	16	96	20	—	12
Niton „ ...	10	14	23	62	15	—	—
St. Helens „ ...	29	125	30	125	103	—	10
Ventnor „ ...	17	23	70	136	25	—	11
Wootton „ ...	20	87	28	266	168	—	—
Yarmouth „ ...	14	39	14	158	49	—	9
Total ...	880	2247	1220	11318	6166	26	325

In addition to the above there is an active Maternity and Child Welfare at work at Shanklin, conducted by a voluntary organisation, and not connected with any nursing association affiliated to the Isle of Wight County Nursing Association.

COUNTY NURSING ASSOCIATION.

This Association, on which your Council has official representatives, continues its good work in “training, supplying, and supervising district nurses in the Isle of Wight.”

Towards the end of the year a Brading Nursing Association was formed, and is now doing excellent work.

Another Nursing Association was formed also in the Calbourne, Shalfleet, and Porchfield area, the nurse employed being resident at Calbourne.

The following Table XII shows the work done in the different districts, the work being reckoned up to March 31st, 1922, the official year end, the details concerning Calbourne and Brading referring, however, to only a portion of a year :—

TABLE XII.

Nursing Associations.	Medical Cases.	Surgical Cases.	Midwifery Cases.	Maternity Cases.	Total Cases.	Visits Paid.
Brading	39	3	7	1	50	519
Brighstone, Brook, and Mottistone ...	30	23	9	3	65	1627
Calbourne	73	32	1	2	108	1013
Carisbrooke	121	79	41	14	255	3917
Chale, Kingston, and Shorwell	24	29	7	4	64	1144
East Cowes and Whippingham	—	—	—	—	—	—
Freshwater and Totland	55	31	8	15	179	4855
Gatcombe, Chillerton, Blackwater, Rookley, Merstone, and Godshill ...	17	15	11	2	45	1110
Newport	121	122	160	23	426	5286
Niton, Whitwell, and St. Lawrence ...	45	32	7	6	90	2051
Ryde	560	248	159	59	1035	15995
St. Helens	36	12	16	8	72	2149
Seaview and Nettlestone	46	27	13	6	92	2362
Ventnor	31	26	23	8	88	2133
Wootton Bridge and District	27	12	14	9	62	2507
Yarmouth, Thorley, Ningwood, and Wellow	15	14	9	3	41	418
Totals	1249	705	485	163	2672	47086

The good work and helpful services of your County Superintendent Nurse, Miss B. M. Johnson, are greatly appreciated by all workers in the cause.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACTS.

Amounts received by panel doctors.—

The amounts paid to the doctors in 1919 were :—

For treatment, £8,083 ; for drugs, £188 ; and for mileage, £20.

In 1920 they had increased to :—

For treatment, £13,451 ; for drugs, £277 ; and for mileage, £640.

Whilst in 1921, the respective amounts were :—

For treatment, £14,527 ; for drugs, £267 ; and for mileage, £505.

WORK DONE BY PANEL CHEMISTS.

During 1921 the number of prescriptions dispensed was 56,874, at a cost of £3,003, averaging 12.6 pence per prescription, compared with 51,163 in 1920, at a cost of £2,924, averaging 13.7 pence per prescription.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS.

The numbers of insured persons on the I.W. County Insurance Committee's Register for the four quarters of the year 1921, were 29,975, 29,808, 29,531, and 29,572 respectively, an average of 29,721 per quarter, compared with 29,294 in 1920 and 26,918 in 1919.

Medical practitioners personally supplied drugs and appliances to their patients in the several quarters of the year 1921, to the following numbers, viz.:—2,166, 2,182, 2,191, and 2,028, an average of 2,141 per quarter. They are now paid two shillings per head per annum. Any necessary catheters, splints, and sera are paid for as extras.

Only one practitioner has submitted his prescriptions to the London Pricing Bureau.

TABLE XIII.—HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1921.

	Rural District.	Cowes.	East Cowes.	Newport.	Ryde.	St. Helens.	Sandown.	Shanklin.	Ventnor.
<i>Inspection—</i>									
Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	783	*	314	145	42	165	220	280	686
No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	218	284	60	125	0	*	0	0	498
No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	18	0	0	0	107	*	0	0	0
No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	121	7	30	*	35	*	*	0	125
<i>Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices—</i>									
No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	12	7	17	35	*	*	78	50	121
<i>Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919—</i>									
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	159	7	7	*	4	*	0	0	*
No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—									
(a) By owners	229	7	12	*	*	*	0	0	*
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0	0	0	*	1	*	0	0	*
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	5	0	3	*	*	*	0	0	*
<i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts—</i>									
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0	35	0	*	*	*	0	0	*
No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—									
(a) By owners	0	124	0	*	*	*	78	0	*
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0	0	0	*	1	*	0	0	*
<i>Proceedings under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909—</i>									
No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	16	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	*
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	0	0	0	0	*	*	0	0	*
No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	*
No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0	0	0	0	*	*	0	0	*
No. of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with the consent of Local Authority under Section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919... ..	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*
No. of new houses erected during the year	49	18	20	*	1	*	3	0	3

* In these cases incomplete or no information has been given in the reports to enable the particulars to be tabulated.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

As from April 1st of the present year, 1922, the Ryde Borough Police and the Sampling of Food and Drugs in the Borough, will come under the care of the Isle of Wight County Council.

The following samples were taken in the Administrative County of the Isle of Wight, excluding the Borough of Ryde, during the year 1921 :—

TABLE XIV.

New milk	87	Of which 4 were adulterated.
Ground coffee	12	All genuine.
Preserved cream	5	All genuine.
Bread and butter	2	All genuine.
Butter	11	All genuine.
Loose cocoa	2	All genuine.
Mustard	9	All genuine.
Honey	1	Genuine.
Vinegar	13	All genuine.

Total 142 samples, 138 genuine, 4 adulterated.

In one of the adulterated milk cases no proceedings were taken, the fats being 3.45 per cent., and the non-fatty solids 8.27 per cent., or 2.71 per cent. below the standard.

Prosecution was undertaken in three instances :—

1. In this case the non-fatty solids were 7.66 per cent., or 9.89 per cent. below the standard, and the fats 3.13 per cent., ash 0.67, specific gravity 1.027.5. There was in the sample a considerable quantity of dirty debris. A fine of £5 was imposed.
2. In this case the non-fatty solids were 8.89 per cent., fats 2.88, a deficiency of 4 per cent., ash 0.75. This case was dismissed.
3. In this case the non-fatty solids were 8.85 per cent., fats 2.75, or 8.3 per cent. deficient, ash 0.77, specific gravity 1.032.8. This case was dismissed.

TABLE XV.—SHOWING THE NUMBER OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR ANALYSIS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1921.

Parish.	New Milk.	Ground Coffee.	Preserved Cream.	Bread & Butter.	Butter.	Loose Cocoa.	Mustard	Honey.	Vinegar.	Total.	Remarks.
Ashey ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Bembridge ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Binstead ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Bonchurch ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Brading ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—
Brighstone ...	3 (1a)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	(a) No proceedings
Brook ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Calbourne ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Carisbrooke ...	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	8	—
Cowes ...	1	2	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	8	—
Chale ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
East Cowes ...	3 (1a)	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	7	(a) Fined £5
Freshwater ...	3 (1a)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	(a) Dismissed
Godshill ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Newport ...	2	2	1	—	1	1	2	—	1	10	—
Niton... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—
Northwood ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
St. Helens ...	2	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	2	8	—
Sandown ...	5 (1a)	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	9	(a) Dismissed
Shalfleet ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Shanklin ...	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—
Shorwell ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
South Arreton	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Totland ...	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	7	—
Ventnor ...	4	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	10	—
Whippingham	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—
Whitwell ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	3	—
Wroxall ...	10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	11	—
Yarmouth ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Total ...	87 (4a)	12	5	2	11	2	9	1	13	142	

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912 AND 1917.

The following particulars refer to the Administration of the Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912 and 1917, during the year 1921 :—

TABLE XVI.

1.—Milk : and cream not sold as preserved cream :

(a) Number of samples examined for the presence of preservatives—				(b) Number in which a preservative was reported to be present—			
Milk	...	...	87				0
Cream	...	...	0				0

2.—Cream sold as preserved cream :—

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct—

(i.)	Correct statements made	5
(ii.)	Incorrect statements	0

Total	5
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(b) Determinations made of milk-fat in cream sold as preserved cream :—

(i.)	Above 35 per cent.	2
(ii.)	Below 35 per cent.	3

Total	5
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(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V (1) and the proviso in Article V (2) of the Regulations have not been observed.—None.

(d) Particulars of each case in which the regulations have not been complied with, and action taken.—None.

3.—Thickening substances. Any evidence of their addition to preserved cream.—None.

4.—Other observations, if any.—The samples sold as preserved cream had, in two instances, been preserved by heat, and not by the addition of chemicals. The third sample which had less than 35 per cent. was only a small fraction below that figure for its milk-fat.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Venereal Clinic has been continued at the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital at Ryde. Particulars given hereunder, supplied by the Venereal Clinical Medical Officer in Table XVII. indicate the use made of it. There is ample provision in the Island for all cases of these diseases needing treatment, and this treatment is given free to all comers, without recommendatory letters, and rail fares are given to necessitous cases, on application to the County Medical Officer.

It cannot be too often repeated that these diseases are infectious diseases which cause intense misery, suffering, and ill-health, that they often attack the innocent, that the surest way of diminishing their extent is by strict continence, and that, when incontinence occurs, the spread of venereal disease can be probably prevented by the adoption of immediate self-disinfection by a thorough washing before and afterwards with a port-wine-coloured solution of permanganate of potash, followed by the application of 30 per cent. calomel ointment, provided always the individual is not so much under the influence of drink as to be unable to apply these measures in a reasonably efficient manner.

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